

PARAGUAY

SECTOR: Social

PROJECT NAME: Social Investment Loan and a Program to Provide
Comprehensive Care for Children and Adolescents
Working in the Streets
(929/OC-PR and ATN/SF-5228-PR)

TOTAL COST: \$31 million

FINANCING:

IDB	\$20 million (Loan)
IDB	\$ 8 million (Technical Cooperation)
LOCAL	\$ 3 million

DATE OF APPROVAL: May 22, 1996

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The objective is to improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable and poorest segments of Paraguayan society by funding social projects and effecting institutional measures to rationalize public spending on social welfare and poverty alleviation programs.

The components of the loan are: (a) social policy and institutional strengthening, which will finance the preparation of a social spending strategy and anti-poverty plans, preparation of an action plan and a consolidated budget for social welfare, a system for monitoring implementation of social policy measures and program-funded projects, and institutional strengthening of the *Secretaría de Acción Social (SAS)* and institutions in the sector; and (b) funding for social projects involving investments in works and services to assist vulnerable groups living in extreme poverty. The social projects included in the second program component will be carried out by NGOs, community organizations, departmental governors' offices and municipalities.

The technical cooperation will include the following activities: (a) a subcomponent for preventive care and

NOTE: Inquiries should be directed to the executing agency. The IDB does not purchase goods and services for the projects it finances. Procurement is the exclusive responsibility of borrowers of IDB funds.

In general, borrowers in the public sector are required, under IDB loan contracts, to procure goods and services through open international competitive bidding. Although contracts under \$350,000 are exempt from this requirement for reasons of economy and efficiency, there are no restrictions placed on the participation of firms from all IDB member countries to provide goods and services whenever the Bank's foreign exchange is used.

assistance to finance projects in the areas of child labor prevention, prevention and mitigation of the risks to which street children and teenagers are exposed, assistance for children and teenagers who live on the streets, comprehensive rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, promotion of child protection, and special studies; and (b) a subcomponent for promotion and technical assistance to finance mass communications activities to increase awareness in Paraguayan society of the needs and rights of street children, project promotion and advisory assistance for governmental organizations and NGOs in project preparation and submittal, technical assistance for participating institutions, strengthening for sector-related governmental organizations and NGOs, and joint efforts among the various organizations active in the sector.

CONSULTANTS:

An international consultant will be hired to help carry out the social policy and institutional strengthening component of the loan. International and national consultants will be contracted to:

- (a) help devise a general social spending strategy and decentralized anti-poverty action plans;
- (b) conduct institutional studies with a view to develop a social welfare policy and prepare a comprehensive social welfare budget;
- (c) help monitor social welfare policy and program-financed projects;
- (d) promote projects and develop specific analytical methods (national consultants);
- (e) carry out training workshops for project executing agencies;
- (f) help implement institutional adjustments in sector institutions;
- (g) supervise project execution;
- (h) audit the program;
- (i) assist with mass communications for the technical cooperation (three consultant/months--a UNICEF consultant has been hired for this activity);
- (j) advise the technical cooperation promotion campaign (six consultant/months);
- (k) provide technical assistance to participating organizations (12 consultant/months); and
- (l) strengthen participating organizations in specialized technical areas (25 consultant/months).

GOODS & EQUIPMENT:

Farming equipment and tools, teaching materials for schools, medical equipment and inputs, equipment for child-care and community centers, and promotional and dissemination materials will be purchased.

CIVIL WORKS:

The following types of small works will be financed through the social projects presented by governmental organizations and NGOs: (a) construction of small

productive agricultural and other income production facilities; (b) construction and rehabilitation of basic sanitation systems (latrines, septic tanks, bathrooms) and water supply systems (cisterns, wells, and other systems); (c) construction, modernization, rehabilitation and outfitting of educational centers; (d) construction, expansion and rehabilitation of primary health care facilities; and (e) construction, modernization and expansion of day-care centers, home child-care centers and community centers.

(929/OC-PR y ATN/SF-5228-PR) English

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